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Budget Minutes 06/27/2011

Approved Minutes 1/11/2012

Arlington School Committee

Budget Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Monday June 27th, 2011 at 8:00 am

Attendance

Subcommittee Members:

Chair: Kirsi Allison-Ampe MD, Leba Heigham, Judson Pierce

Athletic Advisory Committee:

Jack Crowley, Stephen Harrington, another committee member, David Good

APS Staff: Ted Dever Athletic Director, Diane Johnson Chief Business Officer

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 am.

A proposed fee schedule and supporting documents were distributed by representatives of the AAC.

Mr Harrington declared his intention to video-tape the meeting. Participants were requested by the Chair to acknowledge this on-camera. Ms Heigham stated that she did not consent to the video. She also declared a conflict of interest because of upcoming athletic participation by her child.

The proposed fee schedule presentation was begun by Mr Harrington at the request of Mr Crowley.

Dr Ampe requested that in the future, when presenting numbers for discussion, to please supply information prior to the meeting, and asked for confirmation of various numbers from the APS staff.

Ms Johnson stated that the CDBG grant has not yet been allocated and that we don't know what will be provided. Other discussion was about the need to reserve CDBG funds for those with financial need (vs reducing fees for all students).

Ms Heigham noted that the shift of costs from public money to private had decreased participation.

Early in the meeting, Mr Dever was asked if he agreed with the recommendations of the AAC, or if he had an alternative proposal. He stated he agreed with the AAC proposal as a starting point.

Dr Ampe proposed an alternate fee schedule that included somewhat higher fees for high-cost sports and lower fees for lower costs sports. Members of the AAC preferred their fee schedule, as did Mr Devers, while Ms Johnson was neutral since both schedules brought in the same amount of fees. Sub-committee members deferred to the preference of the AAC though noting a concern about fee equity.

Mr Dever did not know enrollment for next year football yet.

Ms Johnson commented that she likes averages as presented in the proposal.

Ms Heigham commented on numbers in the AAC proposal: that they are not normalized for total students, amount of fees.

An AAC member stated that the incoming freshman for the fall numbers were pretty stable.

Mr Crowley discussed the family cap.

Mr Dever discussed the family cap; he thinks it will lower expenses.

Ms Heigham was concerned that soccer participants are charged more when soccer costs numbers are rounded up, as opposed to other sports. An AAC member stated that their child was involved with soccer and the fee was acceptable to the other families.

Mr Dever stated that Boy's volleyball is a new sport.

A motion was made by Mr Pierce to forward to the entire School Committee the Athletic fee schedule as presented, seconded by Dr Ampe. Motion passed 2-0-1, with Ms Heigham abstaining (due to prior declared conflict of interest). The AAC members and their Chairman Mr Crowley were thanked for their efforts on the behalf of our students.

Special Education Reserve:

The concept of creating a reserve for Special Education was discussed, as was the need for determining an appropriate reserve amount and the method to do this.

Ms Heigham: move that Dr Ampe research various SC set asides for reserves. Ms Locklear (interim SpEd Director) and Ms Johnson be invited to propose their recommendations. Seconded by Mr Pierce. There was no discussion. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15am.